

REMARKS

Claims 1-65 were originally submitted.

Claims 1, 13, 16, 22, 25, 37, 40 and 53 have been amended.

Claims 1-65 remain in this application.

35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saxena et al. (U.S. Patent 6,259,449; hereafter "Saxena"). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Saxena describes an integrated communication center or unified graphical user interface (Saxena, col. 4, lines 18-22). Saxena is particularly directed to providing a single unified graphical user interface (Saxena, col. 2, lines 53-54). The integrated communication center (i.e., unified GUI) includes a user interface that provides access to various separate communication programs (Saxena, col. 4, lines 33-36). The communication programs include a speaker phone, video phone, answering machine, fax, email, and web browser accessible through the single integrated interface (Saxena, col. 1, lines 62-65). The Office points out that Fig. 4 of Saxena shows that "GUIs" 500, 600, 700, and 800 are associated with corresponding devices as shown in Fig. 3. As such, the identified individual "GUIs" or user interfaces (as taught in Saxena) (i.e., user interfaces 500, 600, 700, and 800) are directed to particular programs. In other words, a "GUI" or user interface is provided for a voice mail program, another user interface is provided for an answering machine program, etc. Furthermore, although the user

interfaces identify corresponding devices, the user interfaces do not teach an identifier that identifies the particular user interface.

Amended independent claim 1, for example, recites in part “displaying a first graphical user interface (GUI) on a display screen, the first GUI being associated with one or more programs operatively configured on a first computing device; and displaying a second GUI on said display screen over said first GUI, the second GUI being associated with one or more programs operatively configured on a second computing device ... and includes at least one identifier that identifies that said second GUI is not associated with said first computing device.”

The Examiner does not find persuasive the Applicant’s prior arguments that Saxena does not teach “at least one identifier that identifies that said second GUI is not associated with said first computing device” as recited in claim 1.” In particular, the Examiner points out that “option buttons” on the single unified GUI taught in Saxena “provide the desired functionalities of the first and second device”. The Examiner states that “[i]t would have been obvious that the phone book user interface (700) is associated with the phone book option button (428), but not with selects option button (412)”.

Applicant presents that the phone book option buttons are different than an identifier on a GUI. Saxena teaches a single unified GUI that accesses multiple functionalities (e.g., phone book, fax, etc.). If another unified GUI is presented, it would include the same “option buttons” directed to same or similar programs or functionalities. Because the GUIs taught in Saxena do not include identifiers, it would be difficult to differentiate between the GUIs.

The Examiner seemingly relies on personal knowledge without pointing to any specific teaching or suggestion as to "identifiers that identify GUIs" and relies on the "option buttons" directed to particular functionalities that is taught by Saxena. According to 37 CFR §1.104(d)(2), "[w]hen a rejection in an application is based on facts within the personal knowledge of an employee of the office, the data shall be as specific as possible, and the reference must be supported, when called for by the applicant, by the affidavit of such employee, and such affidavit shall be subject to contradiction or explanation by the affidavits of the applicant and other persons." If this rejection is maintained on a similar basis in a subsequent action, the applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to supply such an affidavit to support this modification of Saxena. Otherwise, and without additional support, it is respectfully submitted the Action's conclusion does not represent the conclusion of a person of ordinary skill at the time of invention.

Furthermore, claim 1 has been amended to recite in "the first GUI being associated with one or more programs operatively configured on a first computing device; and displaying a second GUI on said display screen over said first GUI, the second GUI being associated with one or more programs".

Saxena teaches user interfaces directed to specific functionalities or programs. Therefore, a particular user interface is directed to a specific functionality presented on Saxena's single unified GUI. Saxena does not teach that each user interface would support or be associated with more than one program or functionality.

Accordingly, a rejection based on Saxena is improper. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 1-12 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on base claim 1 based at the least on the arguments presented in support of claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claims 1-12 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 13 recites in part, "generating graphical user interface (GUI) data suitable for being displayed on a display screen, the GUI data being associated with one or more programs operatively configured on a computing device that is configurable to be operatively coupled to another computing device ... wherein said GUI data includes data for displaying at least one identifier that identifies that said GUI data is associated with said computing device, and identifies the GUI data from other GUI data associated with one or more programs."

As discussed in support of claim 1, Saxena does not teach or suggest an identifier that identifies a GUI data is associated with a computing device and identifies the GUI data from other GUI data. Furthermore, Saxena does not teach that GUI data is associated with one or more programs, since each user interface taught in Saxena is directed to a specific function.

Accordingly, a rejection based on Saxena is improper. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claim 13 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 14-15 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on base claim 13 based at the least on the arguments presented in support of claim

13. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claims 14-15 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 16 recites in part "displaying a first graphical user interface (GUI) on a display screen, the first GUI being associated with one or more programs operatively configured on a first computing device; and displaying a second GUI on said display screen over said first GUI, the second GUI being associated with one or more programs operatively configured on a second computing device that is operatively connected to said first computing device, and wherein said second GUI is displayed on substantially the full screen of said display screen and includes at least one identifier that identifies that said second GUI is not associated with said first computing device".

As discussed in support of claim 1, Saxena does not teach or suggest an identifier that identifies a GUI is associated with a computing device and identifies the GUI from other GUIs. Furthermore, Saxena does not teach that GUIs are associated with one or more programs, since each user interface taught in Saxena is directed to a specific function.

Accordingly, a rejection based on Saxena is improper. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claim 16 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 17-21 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on base claim 13 based at the least on the arguments presented in support of claim 13. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claims 17-21 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 22 recites in part "generating graphical user interface (GUI) data suitable for being displayed on a display screen, the GUI data being associated with one or more programs operatively configured on a computing device that is configurable to be operatively coupled to another computing device ... and generating said GUI data to include data for displaying at least one identifier that identifies that said GUI data is associated with said computing device, and identifies the GUI data from other GUI data associated with one or more programs."

As discussed in support of claim 1, Saxena does not teach or suggest an identifier that identifies GUI data is associated with a computing device and identifies the GUI data from other GUI data. Furthermore, Saxena does not teach that GUI data are associated with one or more programs, since each user interface taught in Saxena is directed to a specific function.

Accordingly, a rejection based on Saxena is improper. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claim 22 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 23-24 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on base claim 22 based at the least on the arguments presented in support of claim 22. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claims 23-24 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 25 recites in part "a first graphical user interface (GUI) on said display screen, the first GUI being associated with one or more programs running on said first computing device; a second computing

device operatively coupled to said communication link and thusly said first computing device, said second computing device being configured to display a second GUI on said display screen over said first GUI, the second GUI being associated with one or more programs operatively configured on said second computing device, and wherein said second GUI is displayed on substantially the full screen of said display screen and includes at least one identifier that identifies that said second GUI is not associated with said first computing device.”

As discussed in support of claim 1, Saxena does not teach or suggest an identifier that identifies a GUI is associated with a computing device and identifies the GUI from other GUIs. Furthermore, Saxena does not teach that GUIs are associated with one or more programs, since each user interface taught in Saxena is directed to a specific function.

Accordingly, a rejection based on Saxena is improper. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claim 25 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 26-36 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on base claim 13 based at the least on the arguments presented in support of claim 13. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claims 26-36 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 37 recites in part “graphical user interface (GUI) data associated with one or more programs suitable for display on a display screen coupled to said other computing device, wherein if displayed on said display screen said GUI data is configured to use substantially the full

screen of said display screen, and wherein said GUI data includes data for displaying at least one identifier that identifies that said GUI data is associated with said computing device, and identifies the GUI data from other GUI data associated with one or more programs.”

As discussed in support of claim 1, Saxena does not teach or suggests an identifier that identifies GUI data is associated with a computing device and identifies the GUI data from other GUI data. Furthermore, Saxena does not teach that GUI data are associated with one or more programs, since each user interface taught in Saxena is directed to a specific function.

Accordingly, a rejection based on Saxena is improper. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claim 37 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 38-39 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on base claim 37 based at the least on the arguments presented in support of claim 37. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claims 38-39 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 40 recites in part “displaying a first graphical user interface (GUI) on a display screen, the first GUI including a first object being associated with a first program; and displaying a second GUI on said display screen over said first GUI, the second GUI including a second object that is the same as the first object being associated with a second program, and wherein said second GUI is displayed on substantially the full screen of said display screen and includes at least one identifier that identifies that said second GUI is not associated with said first program.”

As discussed in support of claim 1, Saxena does not teach or suggest an identifier that identifies a GUI is associated with a computing device and identifies the GUI from other GUIs. Furthermore, Saxena does not teach a first object associated with a first program that is the same as a second object associated with a second program. As admitted by the Examiner, Saxena teaches different option buttons that differentiate functionalities that are available on the single unified GUI. It would be counterintuitive to the teachings in Saxena to provide similar or same objects in different user interfaces displayed on the singled unified GUI. In other words, the same option buttons would not be available in different user interfaces of Saxena.

Accordingly, a rejection based on Saxena is improper. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claim 40 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 41-52 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on base claim 40 based at the least on the arguments presented in support of claim 40. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claims 41-52 be withdrawn.

Amended Independent claim 53 recites in part “displaying a first graphical user interface (GUI) on a display screen, the first GUI including a first object being associated with a first program; and displaying a second GUI on said display screen over said first GUI, the second GUI including a second object that is the same as the first object being associated with a second program, and wherein said second GUI is displayed on substantially the full screen of said

display screen and includes at least one identifier that identifies that said second GUI is not associated with said first program.”

As discussed in support of claim 40, Saxena does not teach or suggest an identifier that identifies a GUI is associated with a computing device and identifies the GUI from other GUIs. Furthermore, Saxena does not teach a first object associated with a first program that is the same as a second object associated with a second program.

Accordingly, a rejection based on Saxena is improper. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claim 53 be withdrawn.

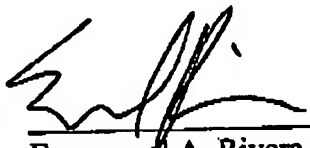
Dependent claims 54-65 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on base claim 53 based at the least on the arguments presented in support of claim 53. Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection of claims 54-65 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

All pending claims 1-65 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the subject application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,
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